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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
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L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 OPIC-03
XMB-02 IGA-02 /157 W
----------129390 230147Z /41
R 221734Z DEC 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8854
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
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USEEC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: OVERVIEW MECHANISM: ACTION IN SECOND COMMITTEE AND PLENARY; FIRST INDICATIONS OF FOLLOW UP

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REF: (A) STATE 298608; (B) USUN 5596; (C) USUN 5602

1. SUMMARY: SECOND COMMITTEE ADOPTED TEXT CONTAINED REF C ON DECEMBER 15 WITHOUT A VOTE. U.S., EC, AND SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS MADE EXPLANATIONS. TEXT PASSED PLENARY ON DECEMBER 19. G-77 IS ON RECORD FAVORING FAVORING FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (TO ESTABLISH AGENDA AND WORKING ARR-

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ANGEMENTS) "LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY" BUT IS PREPARED TO
ACCEPT MIDFEBRUARY (I.E. WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13) BUT NO LATER.
END SUMMARY.

2. SECOND COMMITTEE PASSED TEXT ON OVERVIEW (CONTAINED IN
DOCUMENT A/C.2/32/L.101 AND TRANSMITTED REF C) ON DECEMBER
15 BY CONSENSUS. U.S. AND G-77 FORMALLY WITHDREW DRAF
PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENTS L.72 AND L.44, RESPECTIVELY.
TEXT OF SUMMARY RECORD BEING POUCHED POOLE, IO/IEP.

3. AT CHAIRMAN'S REQUEST, VICE-CHAIRMAN OLIVERI-LOPEZ,
WHO PRESIDED OVER OFFICIAL SECOND COMMITTEE NEGOTIATING GROUP
ON TEXT, INTRODUCED THE NEW TEXT AS THE ONLY SPEAKER PRIOR
TO DECISION. HE PRAISED THE COMPROMISE TEXT AS "AN
EXEMPLARY CASE OF INTERCHANGE BETWEEN DIFFERENT SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT
REPRESENTED IN THE COMMITTEE," CALLED OVERVIEW QUESTION "THE
MAJOR ISSUE BEFORE THE COMMITTEE," AND HOPED RESOLUTION
WOULD "PROVE TO HAVE BEEN A TURNING POINT IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A
MORE JUST AND EQUITABLE INTERNAIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER." COM-
MENTS ON SPECIFIC PARAGRAPHS WERE GENERALLY CONFINED TO
REPEATING LANGUAGE OF NEW TEXT. THE FOLLOWING POINTS MAY BE
NOTED:
A) OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ONE-OLIVERI REFERRED TO NEGO-
TIATIONS "WITHIN THE BROAD FRAMEWORK OF HE UN SYS-
TEM" AND STATED THAT "IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT OPERA-
TIVE PARAGRAPH ONE IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE TERMS
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OF REFERENCE AS CONTAINED IN THE RELEVANT LEGISLATIVE
MANDATES OF THRE ORGANS CONCERNED."
B) OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH THREE. FOR THE EXPRESS
PURPOSE OF FACILITATING THE PARTICIPATION OF
SWITZERLAND, THE FOLLOWING FOOTNOTE WOULD BE
ADDED: "IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE COMMITTEE
OF THE WHOLE WILL BE OPEN TO ALL STATES, THIS
TERM BEING INTERPRETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
ESTABOISHED PRACTICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.".
HE NOTED THAT THE LEGAL OFFICE HAD RULED THAT
FOOTNOTE "WOULD HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT WITHOUT
LEADING TO ANY OTHER CONSEQUENCES."
C) OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH FOUR. OLIVERI READ THE FOUR
SUB-PARAGRAPHS ON THE MANDATE WITH A BRIEF IMPROMPTU
COMMENT, ON WHICH HE HAD NO NOTES AND TO WHICH
NO REFERENCE WAS MADE IN HE SUMMARY RECORD.
D) HE NOTED THAT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH THEN RFLECTED
THE INTENTION TO MAINTAIN THE FUNCIONS OF ECOSOC
AS THEY WERE.

4. THE STATEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WAS AS FOLLOWS:
"THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES ARE

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HAPPY TO JOIN IN A CONSENSUS ON THIS SIGNIFICANT RESOLUTION.
THIS CONSENSUS HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE SPIRIT OF CONCILIA-
TION, TO WHICH WE PAY TRIBUTE. IT REFLECTS A CAREFUL BALANCE
ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS AND ISSUES, ON
WHICH THE POSITIONS OF MEMBER STATES INDIVIDUALLY ARE
WELL KNOWN AND HAVE BEEN CLEARLY RECORDED. THESE RESPEC-
TIVE POSITIONSARE MAINTAINED.

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R 221734Z DEC 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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"WE LOOK FORWARD TO TAKING PART CONSTRUCTIVELY
IN THE FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHED BY THIS RESOLUTION, WHICH ALSO
DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE POSITIVE ROLE WHICH ECOSOC

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SHOULD PLAY. WE ARE IN A NEW PHASE IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
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COOPERATION. "

5. ALTHOUGH NETHERLANDS HAD PARTICIPATED IN DRAFTING OF EC TEXT, DELEGATION ALSO MADE AN INDIVIDUAL STATEMENT, UNCLEARED WITH EC PARTNERS, WHICH OOK A NOTABLY DIFFERENT LINE, AT TIMES IN CONFLICT WITH SOME EC AND U.S. UNDERSTANDINGS. DESPITE DROPPING OF PARAGRAPH 12 FROM G-77 DRAFT, NETHERLANDS SUBMITTED OWN VIEW OF SUBJECTS FOR ATTENTION OF OVERVIEW BODY, INCLUDING COMMODITIES AND COMMON FUND; DEBT; IMPLEMENTATION OF CIEC; MTN "AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGE"; INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT, AGRICULTURE, AND ENERGY. NETHERLANDS SPECIFICALLY CALLED FOR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO SET TIME FRAMES FOR OTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

6. GDR, SPEAKING FOR EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES, MADE BRIEF REMARKS, CENTERING ON EXPRESSION OF "DOUBTS" AS TO ORGANIZATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDED FOR IN RESOLUTION AND NOTING THAT NOTHING IN RESOLUTION SHOULD DIMINISH AUTHORITY OF ECOSOC.

7. GREECE MADE BRIEF STATEMENT, LAMENTING ABSENCE OF LANGUAGE ON PROBLEM OF "CLOSED LINER CONFERENCES." TURKEY STRESSED OPEN-ENDED "DEMOCRATIC" NATURE OF OVERVIEW MECHANISM.

8. JAPANESE DELEGATE MADE BRIEF POSITIVE STATEMENT, EXPRESSING NO RESERVATIONS BUT LOOKING FORWARD TO "CLARIFICATION" ON WORK METHODS.

9. AUSTRALIANS NOTED THAT OVERVIEW "SHOULD NOT BE A SECOND TIER" FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN PROGRESS IN OTHER ORGANS, THE AUTONOMY AND MANDATE OF WHICH SHOULD CONTINUE. TIMEFRAMES HAD TO BE REALISTIC AND AGREED TO BY PARTIES IN NEGOTIATIONS.
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10. CHINESE MADE GENERALLY POSITIVE STATEMENT, ALBEIT WITH REFERENCE O "SABOTAGE OF THE SUPERPOWERS."

11. U.S. DELEGATE, SPEAKING IN SECOND POSITION AFTER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION, MADE REMARKS ON LINES REF A. TEXT DATAFAXED TO FRANK IO.

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12. IN CLOSING REMARKS OF DEBATE, G-77 SPOKESMAN (HALL) NOTED MONITORING REFERRED TO IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS REACHED IN NEGOTIATIONS, NOT TO RELATED ACTIVITIES IN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT G-77 INTERPRETED OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ONE STRICTLY (I.E., THAT ALL NEGOTIATIONS OF A GLOBAL NATURE ON NIEO SHOULD TAKE PLACE WITHIN UN SYSTEM.

HE NOTED THAT, FOR THE 77, THE SENSE OF URGENCY AND TIME-FRAMES MENTIONED IN TEXT RELATED TO 1980 SPECIAL SESSION. HE THEN READ OFF LIST OF PRIORITY AREAS FOR THE OVERVIEW BODY, IN EFFECT REPEATING WITH LESS DETAIL THE ITEMS LISTED IN PARAGRAPH TWELVE OF G-77 DRAFT (L.44). HE CALLED FOR FIRST SESSION OF OVERVIEW TO TAKE PLACE IN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY AND, SINCE THIS NOT NOTED IN REPORT, REPEATED CALL IN STATEMENT IN PLENARY, WHICH PASSED RESOLUTION ON DECEMBER 19.

13. SINCE SECRETARIAT DOGGEDLY KEPT GIVING TITLE OF ITEM (IMPLEMENTATION OF IDS, NIEO, CERDS, SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION) AS THAT OF RESOLTUION, U.S. DELEGATION, SUPPORTED BY UK, HAD TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION ON THIS POINT (I.E. ABSENCE OF TITLE) IN PLENARY AND RECEIVED IT FROM ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT.

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14. FOLLOW-UP. PRIOR TO CLOSURE OF GA, MISSION DISCUSSED NEXT STEPS WITH THREE LEADING G-77 PARTICIPANTS. MADEY OF YUGOSLAVIA ASKED THAT WE COMMUNICATE OUR IDEAS ON WORKING ARRANGEMENTS TO HIM IN BELGRADE, THROUGH LOMBARDI. HALL OF JAMAICA, WHEN QUESTONED AS TO MEANING OF HIS REMARKS, REPEATED
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IN PLENARY, THAT FIRST MEETING OF OVERVIEW SHOULD TAKE PLACE "LATE IN JANUARY OR EARLY IN FEBRUARY," NOTED THAT 77 WOULD NOT OBJECT TO MEETING DURING WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13; LATER WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE, HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETING ON UNIDO AS A SPECIALIZED AGENCY. HALL NOTED INITIAL ONE-WEEK SESSION WOULD BE DEVOTED TO WORKING ARRANGEMENTS AND AGENDA.

15. MISOFF DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF OVERVIEW AT SOME LENGTH WITH AKRAM OF PAKISTAN. HE NOTED IMPORTANCE OF GETTING OVERVIEW STARTED ON GOOD FOOTING AND, HENCE, NEED TO AVOID CONTENTIOUS ISSUES FOR INITIAL SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION. IN HIS VIEW, "PROBLEMS OF POOREST COUNTRIES" MIGHT BE A THEME WHICH WAS NOT IN ITSELF CONTENTIOUS (LIKE COMMON FUND OR DEBT) AND ON WHICH REAL PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION COULD BE HELD. WHILE NOT COMMENTING ON SPECIFIC PROPOSAL, MISOFF AGREED WITH AKRAM'S VIEW ON NEED FOR A GOOD BEGINNING. AKRAN NOTED HE WOULD REMAIN IN NEW YORK UNTIL JUST PRIOR TO HOLIDAYS IN EFF-ORT TO "ORGANIZE HIS THINKING" BEFORE RETURNING TO ISLAMABAD. MISSION WILL REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH PAKISTANIS ON THIS. AKRAM, ALSO RESTATED SYMPATHY FOR IDEA OF SMALL, LIMITED GROUP WITHIN OVERVIEW.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Reference: 77 STATE 298608, 77 USUN NEW YORK 5596, 77 USUN NEW YORK 5602
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 142899
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OVERVIEW MECHANISM: ACTION IN SECOND COMMITTEE AND PLENARY; FIRST INDICATIONS OF FOLLOW UP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: EGEN, PORG, XX, UNGA, ECOSOC, SECOND COMMITTEE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/47cdcafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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